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Deborah Williams, FOIA Public Liaison
Leticia Lane, FOIA Officer
Environmental Protection Agency
(6MD-OE)
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

FOIA REQUEST

Fee benefit requested

Fee waiver requested

Expedited processing requested

Dear FOIA Officer:

Pursuant to the federal Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, I request access to and copies of Geographic information systems (GIS) files related to the Keystone Pipeline project, including, but not limited to:

Digital maps, spreadsheets, databases, ESRI shapefiles, KML or KMZ files containing geographic information of any sections or phases of the Keystone Pipeline route.

I would like to receive the information in electronic format.

As a representative of the news media I am only required to pay for the direct cost of duplication after the first 100 pages. Through this request, I am gathering information on TransCanada's Keystone Pipeline project that is of current interest to the public because it crosses public and private land and environmentally sensitive areas in several states. This information is being sought on behalf of *NPR StateImpact* for dissemination to the general public.

Please waive any applicable fees. Release of the information is in the public interest because it will contribute significantly to public understanding of government operations and activities. The release of this information would give the public a better

understanding of the pipeline project's route, which is a key component in understanding the project's impact on people and the environment.

If my request is denied in whole or part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the act. I will also expect you to release all segregable portions of otherwise exempt material. I, of course, reserve the right to appeal your decision to withhold any information or to deny a waiver of fees.

As I am making this request as a journalist and this information is of timely value, I would appreciate your communicating with me by telephone or email, rather than by mail, if you have questions regarding this request.

Please provide expedited processing of this request, which concerns a matter of urgency. As a journalist, I am primarily engaged in disseminating information. The public has an urgent need for information about the Keystone Pipeline project because construction of some segments has already started, presidential approval of a permit is pending, and federal lawmakers have filed a measure to expedite the approval process. I certify that my statements concerning the need for expedited processing are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

I look forward to your reply within 20 business days, as the statute requires.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Joe Wertz